



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and the
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER, 1943



Felixstowe Urban District Council

Addendum to Medical Officer's Report for Year 1943

Vital Statistics corrected after receipt of Registrar
General's figures for 1943.

MORTALITY TABLE

Disease	M	F	TOTAL
Cancer of buccal cavity oesophagus and uterus	2		2
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3
Cancer of breast		2	2
Cancer of all other sites	4	7	11
Diabetes	1	1	2
Intracranial vascular lesions	6	11	17
Heart disease	8	18	26
Bronchitis	3		3
Pneumonia	4	3	7
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1		1
Diarrhoea under 2 years of age		1	1
Other digestive diseases		1	1
Nephritis	2	3	5
Premature birth	2		2
Congenital malformations, birth injury etc.	1	1	2
Deaths from violence (excluding road traffic accidents)	1	1	2
Tubercular diseases of respiratory system	3	1	4
Other forms of tuberculosis	1		1
Syphilitic diseases	1		1
Influenza	3		3
Measles		1	1
Other diseases	1	4	5
All causes Totals	46	56	102

Deaths	102	Rate 13.7 per thousand		
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Births	54	80	134	18 per thousand
Legitimate	48	73	121	
Illegitimate	6	7	13	

Still births - Legitimate 2 Males
Illegitimate 1 "

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age - 3 M., 4 F.
Rate per thousand births registered - 53.

Infectious diseases

Scarlet fever 1 case
(civilians only)

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the Chairman and Members of the
Felixstowe Urban District Council

for the year ended December 31st, 1943.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have thought it better to present my annual report at the end of March rather than to wait for the statistical records of the Registrar General. These may not arrive for some months and can be added afterwards for purposes of comparison, though they are unlikely to differ appreciably from the figures compiled locally.

Births and Deaths.

There were 119 births, 52 males and 67 females, so that the birth rate is 16.4 per thousand.

90 deaths were registered in the district, 12 of which were assignable elsewhere. There were however 25 inward transfers (deaths of residents who had died outside the district) so that the total number properly assignable to us is 103: 45 males and 58 females. This gives a death rate of 14.2 per thousand. The outward transfers registered in the district were as follows: Accidental deaths - 3 cases, Oedema of lung - 1 case, Puerperal sepsis - 1 case, Tubercular meningitis - 1 case, Difficult labour - 1 case, Cerebral tumour - 1 case, War operations - 1 case, Heart disease - 1 case.

There were 7 deaths of infants under 1 year of age: 3 from Pneumonia, 1 from Congenital heart disease, 1 from Diarrhoea and convulsions and 2 from premature birth, the last two being born outside the district.

The infantile mortality rate is thus 52 per thousand births registered.

There were 4 deaths from Pulmonary tuberculosis, giving a death rate from this disease of .5 per thousand. From Cancer there were 19 deaths, nearly a fifth of the total number, giving a rate of 2.6 per thousand. A special table is appended giving details of the ages of the patients and the site of the disease in those who died of cancer. The figures of the Tuberculosis register are also added.

Diphtheria Prophylactic.

Diphtheria prophylactic is supplied to medical practitioners, free of charge and a fee of 2/6d is paid by the Urban District Council for each inoculation, i.e. 5/- for each completed case. Most of the prophylactic treatment, however, is carried out at the School Clinics by the County Medical Officer or his Assistant.

Infectious diseases.

The incidence of infectious disease has been very slight. Only two cases of compulsorily notifiable diseases have been notified among the civilian population: 1 of Scarlet Fever (female aged 9) and 1 of Cerebrospinal Fever (female aged 2).

Among His Majesty's Forces - Diphtheria 3 cases; Jaundice 3 cases; Amoebic Dysentery (relapse) 1 case; Malaria (recurrent) 1 case. A few cases of Measles, Chicken Pox and Mumps were also notified among non-civilians.

Both the civilian patients were sent to Ipswich under the arrangement by which sufferers from notifiable infectious disease in the Felixstowe district are sent to the Isolation Hospital, Ipswich, in the hospital ambulance and treated at the expense of the Felixstowe Urban District.

The patients in H.M. Forces are under the care of their own Medical Officers and are isolated and treated at the Ipswich Isolation Hospital or at the Military Hospital Colchester or in some cases isolated in their own billets.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This has been carried out almost entirely at special clinics held at the Council Schools, a few only having been done privately.

The details are as follows:--

Children in the district on December 31st, 1943

Under 5 years of age 670
Over 5 years of age 964

	<u>Under 5</u>	<u>Over 5</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Immunised during the year</u>			
January 1st to June 30th	44	15	59
July 1st to December 31st	90	29	119
Total	134	44	178
Total percentage of children in the district immunised	51.04	64.41	57.7

Hospital Accommodation.

The Felixstowe Cottage Hospital has 34 beds. It receives patients from Trimley, Kirton and Falkenham as well as from Felixstowe. It is fully equipped for major operations and radiological examinations but there is no provision for electrical or light therapy.

During 1943 520 in-patients and 1,217 out-patients received treatment. These included 101 cases of accidents, 207 major operations, 390 minor operations and 1059 X-ray examinations.

The Bartlett Home receives convalescent patients from the East Suffolk Hospital. Infectious diseases are treated at the Ipswich Hospital at the expense of the Felixstowe Urban District Council, an ambulance being sent from Ipswich for their removal.

Tuberculosis is under the care of the County Public Health authority which arranges for domiciliary visits and Sanatorium treatment, when necessary.

Veneral diseases are treated at a clinic held at the East Suffolk Hospital. Small pox should it occur would be dealt with by the County Public Health Authority, which has accommodation set apart for that purpose. The County Pathologist undertakes examination of pathological material for purposes of diagnosis, including examinations of blood, sputum, throat swabs etc.

Details as to the supervision and examination of water and milk supplies are included in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

This is held at the Salvation Army Hall in High Street, Walton, Felixstowe, every Thursday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

An ante-natal clinic is held on the first Monday in every month from 2 - 4 p.m. Dr. Parkinson - a lady doctor - attends every clinic.

There are three fully qualified district nurses, the senior of whom acts as health visitor.

Nurse Prentice, S.C.M., S.R.N., Queens Nurse.

Nurse Rooney, S.C.M., S.R.N., S.F.N.,

Nurse Dixon, S.C.M., S.R.N.

(Note: S.C.M. - State Certified Midwife. S.R.N. - State Registered Nurse. S.F.N. - State Fever Nurse.)

At the clinics the weights of the babies are recorded and advice given when necessary.

The total number of attendances at the clinics was 2615 and of these 1315 cases were seen by the doctor.

Monthly visits are paid by the district nurses to expectant mothers during their pregnancy.

There is only one small maternity home in the district but every help possible is given by the district nurses to obtain accommodation for expectant mothers during their confinement.

All matters relating to the supply of milk and vitamins are attended to at the Food Office. All babies and children under 5 years of age are invited to attend at the clinics, even if the district nurses were not in attendance at the birth.

Number of confinements booked with doctor 95, without doctor 56.

Midwifery visits 983

Maternity visits 1673

Miscarriages 4 (visits 104)

Visits for general cases other than maternity 2093

Tuberculosis visits 80

Health visits 2837

Water Supply.

The water supply of Felixstowe is from a deep well at Rushmere. In addition, there are waterworks at Bucklesham obtaining their supply from the water of the Mill river. This water is chlorinated before it leaves the supply tanks and is conducted to the mains which lead from the Rushmere well. The water supply is constant and sufficient. There are no standpipes, all houses supplied from the mains being directly connected. There is sufficient lime in the water to prevent its having any plumbo-solvent action.

With the exception of a few houses in lower Walton and at Felixstowe Ferry, the whole district is supplied by the mixed Rushmere and Bucklesham water. The exceptions are supplied by shallow wells, the water being examined from time to time to make sure of its purity and suitability for domestic use.

The Water Company has regular fortnightly examinations of the water and the Sanitary Inspector has periodical analyses made by the County Analyst. The reports are invariably satisfactory and no instance of organic contamination has ever been found.

Details as to water analyses, food and milk inspection etc., will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

G.J.CONFORD, D.M. (Oxon) M.O.H.

31st March, 1944

TUBERCULOSIS TABLE FOR 1943

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Totals		DEATHS			
							Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Number on Register January 1st 1943	18	7	10	1	28	8	3	1	nil	
New cases	2	5	-	4	2	9				
Removed from Register during 1943	8	4	2	2	10	6				
Number on register Dec. 31st 1943	12	8	8	3	20	11				

TABLE OF CANCER MORTALITY FOR 1943

Region Primarily affected by growth	Age Groups								Total both sexes
	50 - 60		60 - 70		70 - 90		Totals		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Larynx	1	1					1	1	2
Lung				1				1	1
Gullet			2		1		3		3
Stomach			1		1	1	2	1	3
Bowel	1				2		3		3
Liver		1						1	1
Pancreas						1		1	1
Breast						2		2	2
Ovary		2				1		3	3
	2	4	3	1	4	5	9	10	19

MORTALITY TABLE FOR 1943

DISEASE	AGE PERIODS													
	0 - 1		1 - 5		5 - 20		20-45		45-65		65 & over		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pneumonia	1	2		1	1				2		3	1	7	4
Bronchitis											2	2	2	4
Other respiratory diseases											1		1	1
Pulmonary tuberculosis							2	1	1				3	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage thrombosis embolism					1				2	3	5	8	8	19
Heart disease, including Senile myocardial degeneration		1							1	2	9	15	10	28
Nephritis									1		1	4	2	6
Cancer								1	2	3	6	7	8	19
Paralysis agitans												1	1	1
Cholilithiasis												1	1	1
Diabetes								1	1				1	2
Leukaemia and other blood diseases										1		1	2	2
Diarrhoea and Convulsions		1											1	1
Accidental deaths											1	1	1	2
Prematurity	2												2	2
Totals	3	4	-	1	2	-	2	3	10	9	28	41	45	103

SANITARY INSPECTORS ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1943

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

119 complaints were received during the year and the total number of notices given for all matters over which this Council exercises sanitary supervision (including rat destruction) was 129.

No statutory notices were served.

Water Supply.

Two samples of the Town's water supply were submitted for examination during the year. Both reports were satisfactory and the later one is given in detail.

Chemical Analysis

Source Town Supply. Felixstowe from 17 Leopold Road.

Collected 9.15.a.m. 9.9.43 Arrived 11.30.a.m. 10.9.43.

Analysis

Physical Characters	Clear, colourless, odourless
Reaction	pH. 7.7
Free Ammonia	.0006 parts per 100,000
Albuminoid Ammonia	.0008 parts per 100,000
Nitrite-nitrogen	Nil
Nitrate-nitrogen	.37 parts per 100,000
Tidy figure (3 hours, 37°C)	.015 parts per 100,000
Chloride-chlorine	3.2 parts per 100,000
Total Solids	
Total hardness	
Permanent hardness	
Temporary hardness	
Poisonous metals	None detected
Free Chlorine	Nil

Report

Chemically satisfactory

14 September 1943

(signed) M. E. Delafield

Emergency Public Health
Laboratory Service
London School of Hygiene

Bacteriological Examination

Probable number of coliform organisms per
100 cc. - NIL

Plate count 2 days at 37°C - NIL per cc.
Plate count 3 days at 22°C - 5 per cc.

Very satisfactory

(signed) M. M. Wilson
for Acting County
Bacteriologist
County Laboratory,
Ipswich.

Milk Supply.

Cowsheds. We have 6 in use, 3 fewer than before the war. 78 visits were paid. In general conditions in our cowsheds and the handling of milk therein are good. At one shed a number of special visits had to be paid to improve milking methods and other conditions. Better sterilising arrangements were installed here and samples taken at time of milking showed some improvement. One old shed which has been out of use for some time is being reconstructed on modern lines.

Dairies. Milk (Special Designations) Order.

The following special milk licences were issued during 1943:-

Bottler of Tuberculin Tested	1
Bottler of Accredited	1
Pasteuriser	1
Dealer in Tuberculin Tested	1
Dealer in Pasteurised	1
	<u>4</u>

Samples of milk submitted for examination to the East Suffolk County Laboratory were:-

	<u>No. taken</u>	<u>Results</u>	
		<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Tuberculin Tested	15	10	5
Accredited	10	7	3
Pasteurised	14	12	2
Ungraded (in cowshed)	3	1	2
	<u>42</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>12</u>

Defects in T.T. Milk. A series of samples taken to trace the cause of certain samples being below standard revealed the fault to be in the cooling and bottling arrangements at the dairy and not at the farm. Improvements were made in the sterilising of these instruments and all later samples satisfied the tests.

Defects in Accredited Milk were remedied on the farm (outside the Urban District) through the co-operation of the County Sanitary Officer, our dairyman agreeing to change his supply in the meantime. All later samples of accredited have proved satisfactory. The results of the pasteurised samples show a marked improvement over those of last year.

The County Bacteriologist also made examinations of milk bottles at my request to ascertain the cause of a yellow deposit not removable by mechanical washers. This discolouration was found to be due, not to bacterial contamination, but to a deposit of calcium from the water used (in both cases from deep wells) not harmful and capable of being removed by appropriate treatment.

Food Inspection.

There is now no regular slaughtering in the Urban District. A few householders' pigs were slaughtered on licensed premises by permission of the Food Authorities. Two slaughtermen retain their licences under the Slaughter of Animals Act.

The food condemned this year consists entirely of tinned and bottled goods. Food inspections were made at the request of the Food Executive Officer and reports furnished to him when occasion required.

Housing Act.

No Statutory Notices were served during the year. One house reported as unfit and not repairable was closed by the acceptance by the Council of an Undertaking not to use it for human habitation. Informal notices to remedy housing defects were served in respect of 23 houses.

Factories Act.

A good many of the workshops on our Register have closed since the war. 54 visits were paid to workshops (excluding bakehouses). Notices to remedy sanitary defects were given in 2 cases.

Bakehouses.

8 now in use. 55 inspections were made and 5 notices given.

Rat and Mice Destruction Act.

Rat destruction has been actively pursued during the year. 233 visits of inspection were made (excluding those made during the special survey for the Ministry of Food) and 61 infested properties dealt with.

Several infestations were treated with 'Cyanogas' and until we appointed our own Rat Officer, others were serviced by the Pest Officer of the War Agricultural Committee. Our own (part-time) Rat Officer began duties in December under a scheme whereby the Council undertake to service properties for a fee of from 4/- per year. 25 such contracts were entered into during the month of December and this scheme promises to yield excellent results if the public will co-operate. Publicity is now being given to the scheme by posters and there is a good prospect of the rats being effectively dealt with for the first time.

Disinfections of Rooms or Bedding (or both) - 64.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant

ROBERT GREENWOOD, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector.

31st March, 1944.

